

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hadaway (U.S. Pat. No. 3,923,315). Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sink (U.S. Pat. No. 5,511,886).

In response to the informalities noted by the Examiner, claims 1-3 have been amended and new claim 4 has been added.

As you will note, claims 1 and 2 were amended to define a plurality of sets of side surfaces in the projection. The side surfaces form a triangular shaped recess cut into the projection and pointing toward the seal tip end.

In contrast, it appears that the triangular shaped portions in the Hadaway patent are formed of rib sections 7, 8 which extend outwardly from the projection. Similarly, projections 70 in the Sink patent form triangular portions extending in an opposite direction to those disclosed for the present invention, again, formed of ribs or projections as contrasted with the side surfaces cut into the projection of the present invention.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted

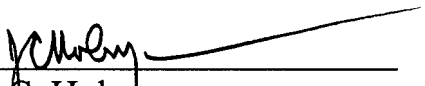
that the claims in the present application, as they now stand, patentably distinguish over the references cited and applied by the Examiner and are, therefore, in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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